

## Message Text

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42

ACTION FBO-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 OC-01 CCO-00 OCL-00 SY-04 A-01

SSO-00 /020 W

----- 054962

O R 311515Z OCT 74

FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0829

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L L E N I N G R A D 1 0 5 5

EO 11652XGDS-3

TAGS: ABLD, ACOM, ASEC

SUBJ: POWER PROBLEMS AND POST COMMUNICATIONS AREA

MOSCOW FOR RSO; BONN FOR RCO; FRANKFURT FOR RTC/RSS; LONDON FOR ATO

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THE CONGEN OFFICE BUILDING HAS DISCOVERED A SERIOUS ELECTRICAL PROBLEM WHICH REQUIRES PROMPT RESOLUTION. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING AN INSPECTION OF THE MAIN POWER DISTRIBUTION ROOM IN THE WEST WING ON THE AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 29, A TERMINAL CONNECTION WAS DISCOVERED GLOWING "WHITEHOT". THE CONNECTION IS LOCATED AT THE OUTPUT TERMINAL OF THE METERING CIRCUIT IN THE MAIN POWER DISTRIBUTION

PANEL. THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REPAIR OF THE EQUIPMENT WERE CONTACTED AND AT THE SAME TIME ALL NON-ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT ON THE 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH FLOORS WAS TURNED OFF.

3. THE SOVIET TECHNICIANS ARRIVED ON THE AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 30 WITH AN ENGINEER FROM THE INSTITUTE WHICH DESIGNED AND MAUFACTURED THE POWER DISTRIBUTION PANEL, TO INSPECT THE PROBLEMS.

4. AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION THE SOVIET ENGINEER STATED THAT THE  
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CONSULATE'S POWER CONSUMPTION WAS EXCEEDING THE DESIGN LIMITATIONS

OF THE SOVIET SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT. AT THIS POINT THE SOVIET ENGINEER PRODUCED BLUEPRINTS, THAT COINCIDE WITH THE CONSULATE'S, THAT SPECIFIED 85 AMPS PER PHASE. CURRENT CONSUMPTION READINGS TAKEN FOR THE 3 PHASES SERVING THE 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH FLOORS SHOWED APPROXIMATELY 55, 70 AND 110 AMP PER EACH PHASE. THIS READING WAS TAKEN WHILE NON-ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT WAS TURNED OFF.

5. AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF THE SOVIET TECHNICIANS, REEXAMINATION OF BLUEPRINTS OF ALL BUILDING WIRING SHOWED THAT ACCORDING TO O/C CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS FOR "COMBINED COMMUNICATIONS CENTER, 4TH AND 5TH FLOOR, COMMUNICATIONS GENERATOR ROOM", DATED APRIL 25, 1973, ITEM "C" SUB-PARAGRAPH 9, AND ELECTRICAL DRAWING L 6, DATED APRIL 26, 1973, 225 REPEAT 225 AMP, 220/127 VOLT, 3 PHASE, 4 WIRE, 50 HZ SERVICE WAS TO BE PROVIDED FOR THE 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH FLOORS. AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THESE SPECIFICATIONS, WIRING (0000) SUFFICIENT TO HANDLE 225 AMP, 220/127V, 3 PHASE, 4 WIRE, 50 HZ POWER WAS INSTALLED BY SEABEE PERSONNEL IN THESE AREAS.

6. AS INDICATED ABOVE, MONITORING THE POWER CONSUMPTION FOR THE ABOVE AREAS, PROVED THAT THE CONSULATE IS IN FACT EXCEEDING THE DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS OF SOVIET SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT FOR THESE AREAS. A SIMILAR PROBLEM WAS RECENTLY EXPERIENCED WHEN THE ADJACENT TERMINAL IN THE SAME DISTRIBUTION PANEL ALSO BECAME OVERHEATED AND BURNED OPEN, CAUSING LOSS OF POWER TO THE 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH FLOORS FOR SEVERAL HOURS.

7. THE SOVIETS ADVISED THAT THEIR TECHNICIANS WILL TRY TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM OCTOBER 31. AS OF THIS TIME, NO ATTEMPT ON THEIR PART HAS BEEN MADE TO REPLACE THE OVERHEATED CONNECTION, 55 AMP, WHICH IS STILL RUNNING HOT. CLARIFICATION WOULD BE APPRECIATED ON THE APPARENT DISCREPANCY BETWEEN THE COMMERCIAL POWER, WHICH WE APPARENTLY ASKED THE SOVIETS TO PROVIDE TO THE CONSULATE, AND THE POWER CONSUMPTION REQUIREMENT AS INDICATED IN O/C'S SPECIFICATIONS

OF 225 AMP REQUIREMENT, WHICH IS NECESSARY FOR EFFICIENT OPERATION OF THE 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH FLOOR AREAS. FRANZ MISCH IN EUR/SOV MAY BE ABLE TO CAST SOME LIGHT ON THIS ASPECT OF THE PROBLEM.

8. WHILE WE HOPE THE SOVIETS MAY COME UP WITH SOME SOLUTION TO THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM, WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD GO IN WITH A REQUEST  
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FOR SOVIET INSTALLATION OF A POWER DISTRIBUTION PANEL THAT WILL GIVE US AT LEAST 170 AMPS PER PHASE. WE CAN JUSTIFY THIS ON GROUNDS  
A) WE NEED 100 PER CENT SAFETY FACTOR OVER THE 85 AMPS SPECIFIED AND  
B) THE CIRCUIT GIVING US TROUBLE IS NOT EVEN MEETING THE 85 AMP SPECIFICATION.

9. IN THE MEANTIME WE WILL TRY TO START UP THE EMERGENCY GENERATOR AGAINST THE CONTINGENCY OF COMPLETE FAILURE OF THE FAULTY DISTRIBUTION

PANEL.  
NEUBERT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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